

**PALA TRIBAL HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION OFFICE**

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November 3, 2016

County of San Diego  
Planning & Development Services  
Attention: Bulmaro Canseco  
CAP Project Manager  
5510 Overland Avenue, Suite 110  
San Diego, CA 92123

Re: Notice of Preparation, County of San Diego Climate Action Plan and General Plan Amendment; PDS2016-ER-16-00-003

Dear Mr. Canseco,

The Pala Band of Mission Indians Tribal Historic Preservation Office has received your notification of the project referenced above. This letter constitutes our response on behalf of Robert Smith, Tribal Chairman.

Because the project as described involves the entire County, it includes areas of traditional cultural significance to the Pala Band. We recognize that the proposed Climate Action Plan (CAP) does not include any development projects as such; therefore, we cannot provide specifics on the scope of the required EIR as far as direct disturbance to cultural resources is concerned. However, we would like to urge the County to consider the impacts of climate change to cultural resources in general as the CAP is developed. Climate change has the potential to affect traditional plant and animal species and their habitats; water resources; management and protection of archaeological and cultural sites; and traditional cultural practices. Increased drought, fire risk, sea level rise, erosion, severe weather events, and more could all result in damage to Tribal traditional lifeways and resources. These elements should all be reflected in the CAP and in the EIR.

Finally, because Tribal land is sovereign, it is not subject to the CAP; however, many Tribes, Pala included, are developing their own climate change adaptation plans. It would behoove the County to reach out to Tribes so that our respective plans are taken into account in a way that allows them to enhance each other.

We appreciate involvement with your initiative and look forward to working with you on future efforts. If you have questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 760-891-3515 or by e-mail at [sgaughen@palatribe.com](mailto:sgaughen@palatribe.com).

Sincerely,

Shasta C. Gaughen, PhD  
THPO and Environmental Director  
Pala Band of Mission Indians